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I--SILVER STAR.--By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (Bull. 43, WD, 1918), and in accordance with authority delegated by the War Department, the SILVER STAR is awarded to the following-named officer:

D J E G. ACKERSON, O-908906, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For gallantry in action on 23 January 1945. As lead bombardier-navigator of an A-26 type aircraft on a mission over enemy territory. Lt ACKERSON served with particular distinction when, despite concentrated enemy antiaircraft fire which severely damaged his aircraft and painfully wounded him, he nevertheless remained in his position and directed his flight over the target and released his bombs with excellent results. In spite of his serious condition Lt ACKERSON calmly continued navigation and led his flight back to friendly territory. The gallantry and superior skill in performing his duties on this occasion are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Michigan.

II--DISTINGUISHED-FLYING CROSS.--By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 2 July 1926 (Bull. 8, WD, 1926), and in accordance with the authority delegated by the War Department, a DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS is awarded posthumously to the following-named officer:

FRANCIS H. BURSIEL, O-749712, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight against the enemy on 25 May 1944. Dispatched on a mission to bomb an enemy air field at Monchy-Breton in occupied France, Lt BURSIEL was leading a formation of A-20 type aircraft, and despite intense antiaircraft fire, ground haze and cloud cover which precluded effective bombing on the initial bombing run, he nevertheless executed a second bombing run. Although enemy fire was intense and accurate Lt BURSIEL vigorously led his flight in a brilliant attack on the objective and dropped his bombs with excellent results. His superior leadership, proficiency and determination in the face of severe conditions reflect great credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Massachusetts.

III--DISTINGUISHED-FLYING CROSS.--By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 2 July 1926 (Bull. 8, WD, 1926), and

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in accordance with the authority delegated by the War Department, a DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS is awarded to the following-named officer, now missing in action:

CHARLES D. RENFROW, O-435388, Captain, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight against the enemy on 13 March 1945. As pilot of an A-20 type aircraft, Capt RENFROW served with distinction while participating in an attack against an enemy landing ground in the vicinity of Frankfurt, Germany. His aircraft sustained severe battle damage while executing his bombing run and Capt RENFROW was forced to leave the formation. When it became apparent that his aircraft would not remain airborne long enough to reach friendly territory, he skilfully and courageously maintained sufficient altitude to enable his crew to parachute to safety. His unusual courage and determination as well as his superior airmanship on this occasion were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces.

IV--DISTINGUISHED-FLYING CROSS.--By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 2 July 1926 (Bull. 8, WD, 1926), and in accordance with the authority delegated by the War Department, a DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS is awarded to the following-named officers:

JULIAN E. ALLEN, O-473490, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight against the enemy on 16 February 1945. As pilot of an A-26 type aircraft Lt ALLEN was dispatched to attack an ordnance depot at Unna, Germany, and although a heavy haze condition existed in the target area and enemy fire was both intense and accurate he nevertheless continued on course. His right engine was rendered inoperative when struck by antiaircraft fire and Lt ALLEN was forced to feather it and leave the formation. Because of his single engine he lost altitude continually and when enemy ground batteries directed their fire at him, he skilfully skip-bombed the batteries with four one thousand pound bombs and proceeded unimpeded to allied territory. Entered military service from North Carolina.

WALLACE W. BENTLEY, O-750318, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 409th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight against the enemy on 19 March 1945. Lt BENTLEY was dispatched on a light bombardment mission against a railroad bridge in Germany, and after effectively releasing his bombs on the objective an accurate burst of antiaircraft fire severely damaged his aircraft. Without regard for the concentrated enemy fire or the battle damage to his aircraft Lt BENTLEY, displaying masterful aerial proficiency and determination, skilfully piloted his aircraft through the formidable barrage and evaded further battle damage. By his superior pilotage and devotion to duty on this occasion he contributed in large measure to the destruction of a vital enemy installation and the return of his aircraft and crew. Entered military service from California.

JOHN K. BONNELL, O-693605, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 409th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight against the enemy on 5 August 1944. Lt BONNELL was flying an A-20 type aircraft on a mission to bomb a railroad bridge in enemy occupied France when cloud formations obscured the objective, he executed three passes over the target and released his bombs on the objective. After turning away from the target his aircraft encountered a barrage of heavy antiaircraft fire and his left engine was destroyed and his right engine severely damaged; however demonstrating superior

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aerial proficiency and determination, Lt BONWELL accomplished a perfect dead-stick landing without injury to his crew members. His extraordinary skill, judgment and courage in the face of imminent danger were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Iowa.

JOHN A. BUSKIRK, O-739723, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight against the enemy on 23 December 1944. Lt BUSKIRK was leading aflight of A-20 type aircraft on a mission against an important highway bridge at Saarburg, Germany when one of his engines threatened to cease operating. Despite reduced power and excessive vibration he bombed the target with superior results. Only after the successful destruction of the objective did Lt BUSKIRK relinquish the flight to his deputy and return to base. By his outstanding aerial proficiency and technical skill Lt BUSKIRK accomplished a successful crash landing and his actions reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered military service from New Mexico.

LOVICK E. CANNON, O-562680, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (H). For extraordinary achievement while participating in numerous missions against the enemy as pilot of an A-20 and A-26 type aircraft in the European Theater of Operations. On 4 April 1945, in an attack against enemy installations in Crailsheim, Germany, Lt CANNON'S aircraft sustained severe damage to the right wing and engine; however, demonstrating a high degree of aerial proficiency he skilfully held his aircraft in formation and released his bombs with excellent results on the objective. He then feathered his right engine, rejoined the formation and executed a successful single engine landing in friendly territory. The superior airmanship and devotion to duty exhibited by Lt CANNON on this, and other missions reflect the highest credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Georgia.

JOHN H. CARVER JR, O-760566, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement against the enemy in aerial flight on 14 February 1945. During a bombing mission over Germany, Lt CARVER'S aircraft was badly damaged by antiaircraft battery fire during the bombing run over an objective. One engine became entirely inoperative, fires started, and one of the gunners was seriously wounded. Lt CARVER prepared to abandon the aircraft; however when the wounded gunner was not able to leave his turret position Lt CARVER courageously ordered the other gunner to abandon the aircraft and then remained at his controls and piloted the aircraft to an open field behind the battle lines and crash-landed the burning aircraft. The superior airmanship and heroic devotion to duty displayed by Lt CARVER on this occasion were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Michigan.

WESLEY D. CHITTY JR, O-718867, 2nd Lieutenant, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight against the enemy on 18 March 1945. As pilot of an A-26 type aircraft Lt CHITTY served with distinction while dispatched on a mission in the vicinity of Worms, Germany. Intense antiaircraft fire rendered his left engine inoperative before reaching the target area, however Lt CHITTY, with great proficiency and determination, tenaciously maintained his position and dropped his bombs with telling effect on the objective. Despite the severe damage to his aircraft as well as an uncontrollable fire raging in the bomb bays, Lt CHITTY nevertheless

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succeeded in returning his aircraft and crew to base safely. His deep devotion to duty on this occasion by returning to base in an aircraft sufficiently damaged to have warranted abandoning it, reflect the highest credit upon himself and his organization. Entered military service from South Carolina.

MARTIN COHEN, O-887217, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement against the enemy in aerial flight on 25 March 1945. As deputy leader of a formation of A-20 type aircraft Lt COHEN was leading a formation on a mission in conjunction with enemy traffic moving in retreat from the Moselle-Coblentz sector in Germany. Despite intense and heavy antiaircraft fire Lt COHEN executed his bombing run and dropped bombs on marshalling yards, cutting rail lines, adjacent siding, and damaging several railroad cars. Lt COHEN'S superior pilotage and skilful leadership contributed in large measure to the destruction of a vital enemy installation and reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered military service from New York.

JAMES K. COLQUHITT, O-755882, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight against the enemy in the European Theater of Operations from June 1944 to March 1945. During this period Lt COLQUHITT served with distinction as pilot of an A-20 and A-26 type aircraft against numerous enemy installations in enemy territory. On 13 March 1945 his aircraft was damaged by antiaircraft fire and by using the hydraulic emergency system Lt COLQUHITT was able to drop his bombs scoring excellent results while participating in an attack against Worms, Germany. Demonstrating outstanding airmanship and technical skill he returned to base and executed an excellent landing under adverse conditions. His alertness, resourcefulness and proficiency throughout a period of long, arduous missions reflect the highest credit upon himself and his organization. Entered military service from Texas.

MAX DAVIS, O-1995992, 2nd Lieutenant, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight against the enemy in the European Theater of Operations. Lt DAVIS displayed superior skill and courage throughout numerous bombing missions and contributed in large measure to their success. On 26 December 1944 while serving as bombardier-navigator of an A-20 type aircraft, Lt DAVIS participated in an attack against a heavily defended communications center at Laroche, Belgium. When poor visibility and concentrated antiaircraft fire precluded successful bombing on the first run he directed his flight around the target and executed a second bombing run. He released his bombs with unusual precision, and under the skilled guidance of Lt DAVIS, his flight was responsible for the destruction of the target thereby reflecting great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered military service from Kansas.

WILLIAM W. DEANE, O-755293, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 409th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight against the enemy in the European Theater of Operations. Lt DEANE served with particular distinction as pilot of an A-20 type aircraft and by his outstanding professional skill and determination he was instrumental in the destruction of vital enemy installations throughout the course of numerous missions against the enemy. On 22 February 1945 Lt DEANE led a formation in an attack upon an important railroad bridge and marshalling yard in Germany, and despite unfavourable weather and intense antiaircraft fire he bombed the objective with great accuracy.

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descending to tree-top level and strafing enemy material and equipment. The brilliant leadership and pilotage skill displayed by Lt DEANE on this occasion reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered military service from District of Columbia.

EARLE E. DeMUN, O-300847, Captain, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight against the enemy on 6 June 1944. While participating in a night mission against marshalling yards at Serqueux, France, Capt DeMUN, as flight leader of an A-20 type aircraft, led his flight under a solid overcast and bombed the objective with devastating results. Although his aircraft was severely damaged he descended to tree-top level and in the face of a withering crossfire Capt De MUN strafed enemy antiaircraft batteries, reducing the effectiveness of enemy fire and undoubtedly safe-guarding his formation. Capt DeMUN'S superior leadership and courage contributed in large measure to the success of the mission and reflect the highest credit upon himself. Entered military service from New York.

HILLARD W. DuBOSE, O-757964, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight against the enemy from September 1944 to April 1945. During this period Lt Du BOSE, as pilot of an A-20 and A-26 type aircraft, displayed superior airmanship and aggressiveness despite adverse weather conditions and overwhelming difficulties. On 25 December 1944 Lt Du BOSE, in the face of concentrated enemy fire, attacked a heavily defended town in Germany and although his aircraft was severely damaged he, by his determination, excellent skill, and airmanship, maintained a compact bomb pattern and achieved outstanding results. The destruction of this town contributed in large measure to vital operations against the enemy during a critical phase of operations in Germany. Entered military service from California.

WAYNE C. EDWARDS, O-760697, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement against the enemy on 19 March 1945. While he was serving as pilot of an A-20 type aircraft in a mission against the enemy at Engleskirchen, Germany, Lt EDWARDS' formation encountered a heavy barrage of antiaircraft fire from enemy ground emplacements; however, despite the heavy antiaircraft batteries defending the objective, he approached the target at minimum altitude and dispatched his bombs with superior results. After bombing the objective Lt EDWARDS was painfully wounded by enemy shell fire but in spite of his injuries and the damage sustained to his aircraft he nevertheless maintained his aircraft and returned to base. His superior airmanship, courage, and devotion to duty under extremely hazardous conditions reflect great distinction upon himself and the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Louisiana.

RUSSELL FORD, O-835177, 2nd Lieutenant, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight on 23 March 1945. As pilot of an A-26 type aircraft, Lt FORD was participating in an attack on important enemy installations at Dinslaken, Germany. When heavy smoke obscured the target, he withheld his bombs and executed a second bombing run. A burst of enemy antiaircraft fire rendered his left engine inoperative and thirty seconds later his remaining engine was destroyed. Demonstrating superior aerial proficiency and calm judgment in the face of imminent danger, Lt FORD, rapidly losing airspeed and altitude, courageously flew his aircraft to friendly territory and effected a

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successful crash-landing. His skilful and courageous devotion to duty on this occasion are exemplary of the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Columbia.

GERALD J. GARRELS, O-755645, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 409th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight against the enemy from July 1944 to April 1945. Throughout numerous long and arduous missions against enemy installations in the European Theater of Operations, Lt GARRELS served with distinction as pilot of an A-20 type aircraft. In particular on 9 July 1944, although his left engine was on fire, hydraulic lines and other vital equipment were destroyed, Lt GARRELS continued on course and bombed an important fuel dump with pin-point precision. The superior aerial proficiency, steadfast determination and courage, in the face of great hazards, as demonstrated by Lt GARRELS on this occasion reflect the highest credit upon himself and the service. Entered military service from California.

EUGENE GOTTESMAN, O-762690, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 409th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight against the enemy in the European Theater of Operations. Lt GOTTESMAN served as lead bombardier-navigator of an A-20 type aircraft throughout the course of numerous light bombardment missions and distinguished himself by superior airmanship and precision bombing technique. Despite adverse weather conditions on 14 March 1945, Lt GOTTESMAN was dispatched on a mission to bomb supply lines to the Ramagen bridgehead on the Rhine and although unfavourable weather prevailed in the target area, he nevertheless identified the objective and bombed it with telling effect on the initial bombing run. The aggressive leadership, marked proficiency and devotion to duty demonstrated by Lt GOTTESMAN on many occasions brought credit to himself and his organization. Entered military service from New Jersey.

WILLIAM L. GREENE, O-750377, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement against the enemy in aerial flight on 2 January 1945. Lt GREENE, as pilot of an A-20 type aircraft, demonstrated superior airmanship and aggressiveness while participating in an attack upon a vital enemy communications center at Gouvy, Belgium. When adverse weather conditions precluded two unsuccessful bombing runs over the objective, Lt GREENE determinedly executed a third and highly successful bombing run in the face of intense and accurate antiaircraft fire. Although his aircraft was severely damaged in this action Lt GREENE was instrumental in wreaking great destruction upon the enemy at a critical junction in operations in the Ardennes Salient. Entered military service from Indiana.

ROSELL E. HALL, O-755334, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight against the enemy from May 1944 to March 1945. As pilot of an A-20 and A-26 type aircraft Lt HALL participated with unusual skill and determination and on 18 July 1944 he continued on to the objective despite extensive battle damage to his plane and contributed to the destruction upon the enemy installation. Again on 16 September 1944 while accompanying a formation in an attack in Holland, Lt HALL dived through a withering cross fire from gun emplacements on a ship in the water and silenced them, and destroyed the boat. His courageous act on this occasion contributed in large measure to the success of the mission and the safety of his flight. Entered military service from Maryland.

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EARL R. HAYTER, O-747410, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight against the enemy from June 1944 to March 1945. Lt HAYTER piloted an A-20 and A-26 type aircraft throughout the course of a large number of bombing missions in enemy-held territory and constantly demonstrated a high degree of professional skill and courage. On 14 February 1945 Lt HAYTER attacked an ammunition dump at Rheinback, Germany and although weather conditions were unfavourable and anti-aircraft fire was intense, he nevertheless skilfully executed a compact bomb pattern which struck the objective with telling effect. His aircraft sustained heavy battle damage after bombing the target; however by his superior aerial proficiency Lt HAYTER regained control of the disabled aircraft and returned to friendly territory without further incident. Entered military service from California.

FLOYD V. HENDERSON, O-750386, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight against the enemy on 20 May 1944. While serving as pilot of an A-20 type aircraft Lt HENDERSON attacked an important enemy landing ground in enemy occupied France. Despite intense anti-aircraft fire which severely damaged his aircraft Lt HENDERSON maintained his position and dispatched his bombs in an excellent pattern on the air field. However, the battle damage sustained to his aircraft was such that Lt HENDERSON was compelled to abandon formation and return to base without escort. Observing another badly damaged aircraft, he elected to escort him to friendly territory and although his fuel was dangerously low Lt HENDERSON maintained his own damaged aircraft and led the course to friendly territory without further incident. Entered military service from Nebraska.

ARTHUR D. HERMAN, O-813699, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight against the enemy in the European Theater of Operations. Lt HERMAN served as pilot of an A-20 type aircraft during which he contributed in large measure to the successful bombing of heavily defended enemy installations, air fields and coastal defenses in Germany. On 7 October 1944 Lt HERMAN attacked a vital marshalling yard and communications center in Western Germany; and in the face of intense anti-aircraft fire and a damaged aircraft he held his position in formation and bombed the objective with devastating results. The high degree of skill and courage exhibited by Lt HERMAN on many bombardment missions contributed in large measure to their success and the sustained operations of his group. Entered military service from Connecticut.

THEODOR D. HOFFMANN, O-804337, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement against the enemy on 23 January 1945. While leading an element of A-20 type aircraft on a low-level bombing and strafing mission in Germany Lt HOFFMANN, ignoring threatening attack from hostile aircraft, courageously led his element to an extremely low altitude over a column of enemy vehicles and bombed the convoy. He then led them at 50 feet altitude, strafing the road along a five-mile length in the face of enemy opposition and brought additional damage and destruction to the enemy. Lt HOFFMANN'S courage in the face of enemy fire as well as his leadership and devotion to duty on this occasion reflect the highest credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from New York.

CHARLES G. KELLEY, O-1995974, 2nd Lieutenant, Air Corps, 409th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight against the enemy

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while serving as pilot of an A-20 and A-26 type aircraft. On 19 November 1944 Lt KENLEY attacked a vital communications center in Germany, and although his left engine was severely damaged he executed two bombing runs and contributed in large measure to the destruction of the objective. Again on 21 January 1945 while attacking a railroad bridge at Euskirchen, Germany, both his engines intermittently ceased operating and despite intense antiaircraft fire Lt KENLEY determinedly maintained his aircraft and dispatched his bombs with telling effect. His courageous determination and aerial proficiency on these occasions were in keeping with the finest traditions of the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from California.

RALPH G. KUHN, O-659990, Lieutenant Colonel, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement against the enemy in aerial flight on 19 February 1945. Lt Col KUHN was leading a formation of A-20 type aircraft against a vital link in the enemy's transportation system and although overcast cloud conditions prevailed throughout the mission, he noted rifts in the overcast and elected to visually bomb the objective. Without regard for his personal safety Lt Col KUHN vigorously led the formation down through the clouds and despite intense antiaircraft fire he so ably led the course over the objective that the target was destroyed. His superior aerial proficiency and brilliant leadership in the face of hazardous conditions were determining factors in the success of the mission and reflect the highest credit upon Lt Col KUHN. Entered military service from Georgia.

JOSEPH KUPITS, O-743012, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight against the enemy from 15 March 1944 to 31 March 1945. As lead bombardier-navigator of an A-20 and A-26 type aircraft, Lt KUPITS, by his excellent bombing and superior navigation ability materially contributed to the success of a large number of missions against vital enemy installations. On numerous occasions Lt KUPITS pressed home his attacks under unfavorable weather conditions and in the face of concentrated enemy antiaircraft fire. By his courage, determination and devotion to duty throughout the course of many long, arduous missions he was instrumental in sustained operations of his group and reflect the highest credit upon himself and his organization. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

JOSEPH J. LACKOVICH, O-753529, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight against the enemy in the European Theater of Operations from August 1944 to March 1945. Lt LACKOVICH, as pilot of an A-20 type aircraft, served with distinction throughout the course of a large number of bombardment missions against enemy installations on the Continent. On 6 August 1944 Lt LACKOVICH, despite intense antiaircraft fire and a damaged aircraft, continued on and bombed the Oissel river bridge with devastating effect. Although imminent danger prevailed because of the severe damage to his aircraft, Lt LACKOVICH, without regard for his safety, pressed home his attack with unusual determination. On many other occasions, he by his excellent bombing technique, contributed in large measure to the success of many additional missions. Entered military service from Michigan.

MAURICE C. LANGFORD, O-753530, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement against the enemy on 25 January 1945. While dispatched on a mission to attack a vital road junction at Stadkyl, 1945.

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Germany. Lt LANGFORD flew his aircraft despite adverse weather conditions with outstanding success. When anti-aircraft fire in the target area severely damaged Lt LANGFORD'S aircraft he feathered the damaged left propeller and remained in formation. During the bombing run his aircraft received additional damage and despite three successive hits, Lt LANGFORD courageously continued on and dispatched his bombs with superior results. The determined aggressiveness, and superior airmanship displayed by Lt LANGFORD on this occasion reflect the highest credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Texas.

ROLAND C. MACDONALD, O-755981, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement while serving as pilot of an A-20 type aircraft on a mission to attack marshalling yards at Gravenbreich, Germany on 8 February 1945. Despite adverse weather conditions Lt MacDONALD piloted his aircraft with distinction and during the bombing run although anti-aircraft fire was intense, he nevertheless dropped his bombs on the objective and contributed in large measure to the devastating results. When his aircraft sustained battle damage and he was wounded Lt MacDONALD courageously remained at the controls of his aircraft and skilfully executed an emergency landing in friendly territory. Entered military service from District of Columbia.

CLYDE Z. McSWAIN JR, O-749485, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight against the enemy from December 1944 to March 1945. On 26 December 1944, Lt McSWAIN piloted an A-20 type aircraft against enemy marshalling yards at Ponsfeld, Germany. Despite inclement weather conditions and intense enemy opposition he dropped his bombs with telling effect. Again on 31 March 1945 while participating in a mission against enemy storage and rail lines at Wurzburg, Germany, Lt McSWAIN, demonstrating outstanding airmanship and determination, proceeded to the objective in the face of heavy anti-aircraft fire and dispatched his bombs with superior results. His professional skill and devotion to duty throughout a large number of missions against the enemy reflect the highest credit upon himself and his organization. Entered military service from North Carolina.

ROBERT L. McQUIDE, O-749916, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement while serving as bombardier-navigator of an A-20 and A-26 type aircraft in the European Theater of Operations from April 1944 to March 1945. During the course of numerous missions against enemy installations on the Continent Lt McQUIDE, despite adverse weather conditions and concentrated enemy fire, bombed and destroyed important enemy objectives and materially contributed to the air offensive against the enemy. On one occasion in conjunction with air-ground operations in Western Germany, Lt McQUIDE by his superior navigation and excellent bombing ability, led his flight with extraordinary results, completely destroying a vital Rhine River bridge. His courageous devotion to duty in the face of enemy fire and great difficulty are exemplary of the finest traditions of the Service. Entered military service from Michigan.

WILLIAM A. MILLER, O-809847, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight against the enemy from May 1944 to April 1945. Lt MILLER exhibited superior airmanship and leadership throughout the course of a large number of light bombardment missions and contributed in large measure to the destruction of vital enemy installations. On 19 March 1945, Lt MILLER was leading a flight of A-20 type aircraft in an attack against marshalling yards at Engelskirchen, Germany; and although his aircraft

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was damaged by intense antiaircraft fire, he continued on over the objective and dropped his bombs with superior results. His constant devotion to duty as well as his outstanding aerial proficiency reflect the highest credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Texas.

JAMES H. MONTROSE, O-755994, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight against the enemy from 11 July 1944 to April 1945. Lt MONTROSE, as pilot of an A-20 and A-26 type aircraft, distinguished himself while participating in numerous missions against the enemy. On 6 August 1944 he kept his aircraft in close formation despite intense antiaircraft fire and bombed the important objective with pinpoint accuracy, thereby aiding immeasurably the advance of allied forces in enemy-occupied France. Again on 25 December 1944, when antiaircraft fire forced several members of the flight in which he was flying to abandon the formation, Lt MONTROSE demonstrating outstanding aerial proficiency and determination in spite of the damaged condition of his own aircraft, joined another flight and dispatched his bombs with devastating effect on an important installation during the critical phases of operations in the Ardennes. Entered military service from California.

DONALD L. MOORE, O-762123, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement against the enemy on 19 July 1944. As lead bombardier-navigator of a formation dispatched on a mission against installations in enemy occupied France, Lt MOORE, in spite of poor visibility skillfully navigated his flight to the target area. When concentrated enemy antiaircraft fire damaged his aircraft Lt MOORE continued on although other flights were compelled to abandon the mission; and under his superior direction bombs were released precisely on the objective. The results achieved on this mission were directly attributable to Lt MOORE'S unusual airmanship and determination and reflect the highest credit upon himself and his organization. Entered military service from Texas.

HERBERT A. MOSS, O-737207, Captain, Air Corps, 409th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight against the enemy from May 1944 to March 1945. As pilot of an A-20 type aircraft Capt MOSS flew numerous missions against vital enemy installations on the Continent. and despite attack by hostile aircraft, adverse weather conditions and enemy ground gun fire, he contributed in large measure to the success of the missions in which he participated. On 13 August 1944 after he successfully destroyed an important enemy bridge in France both his main hydraulic lines and emergency brake system were rendered inoperative by enemy antiaircraft fire; however displaying outstanding aerial proficiency and determination Lt MOSS skillfully evaded further battle damage and returned his aircraft to friendly territory. Entered military service from Michigan.

JOHN G. MAPLER, O-431478, Lieutenant Colonel, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight against the enemy in the European Theater of Operations. Lt Col MAPLER served with particular distinction as squadron commander and assistant group operations officer as well as pilot and box leader of A-20 and A-26 type aircraft against vital enemy installations. On 6 August 1944, Lt Col MAPLER led an attack against the heavily defended bridge at Oissel, France, and despite the intensity of the barrage of antiaircraft fire he began his bombing run. When he could not release his bombs because of mechanical failure, Lt Col MAPLER, fully cognizant

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of his vulnerability, unhesitatingly maneuvered his aircraft in the face of bursting shell-fire and dispatched his bombs with excellent results on the objective. The professional skill and brilliant leadership demonstrated by Lt Col MAPLER throughout many hazardous missions reflect the highest credit upon himself and his organization. Entered military service from Kentucky.

DAVID L. PROFFITT, O-808458, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 409th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight against the enemy on 22 March 1945. While serving as pilot of an A-26 type aircraft Lt PROFFITT attacked an enemy stronghold at Great Reken, Germany and when intense antiaircraft fire rendered battle damage to his aircraft and punctured one wheel tire, he withheld his bombs. After regaining control of his crippled aircraft Lt PROFFITT proceeded on over the target and bombed it with pin point accuracy. Demonstrating further his outstanding aerial proficiency Lt PROFFITT skillfully evaded antiaircraft damage and was successful in returning his aircraft to friendly territory, and contributed in large measure to the complete success of the mission. Entered military service from Illinois.

FRANCIS E. RICHARDSON, O-747893, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement against the enemy on 2 February 1945. As pilot of an A-20 type aircraft Lt RICHARDSON was dispatched to attack a communications center in Germany and when engine trouble forced him to complete the mission on single engine he determinedly continued on to the objective. Although antiaircraft fire was intense and accurate Lt RICHARDSON skillfully maintained his aircraft and dropped his bombs with telling effect on the target. Despite the damage to his aircraft, and unfavorable weather conditions, he executed a successful single-engine landing. His courage and determination in the face of great danger, as well as his superior airmanship on this occasion, reflect the highest credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Louisiana.

ALBERT W. ROBY JR, O-431522, Major, Air Corps, 409th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight against the enemy on 1 January 1945. Maj ROBY served with particular distinction as pilot of an A-20 type aircraft while leading a pathfinder formation on a bombing mission at St Vith, Belgium. Although fighter escort departed with the first box and the pathfinder equipment became inoperative, Maj ROBY, demonstrating superior leadership and aggressiveness, vigorously led three bombing runs over the objective despite heavy antiaircraft fire and the presence of enemy fighters in the vicinity. Under his skillful leadership, the objective was successfully destroyed and his formation returned to base with a minimum of battle damage. The brilliant technical skill and airmanship demonstrated by Maj ROBY on this occasion reflect the highest credit upon himself and his organization. Entered military service from Ohio.

HOWARD ROTHSTEIN, O-765091, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight against the enemy on 29 September 1944. Lt ROTHSTEIN was piloting an A-20 type aircraft on a mission to bomb marshalling yards at Bingen, Germany, and distinguished himself by outstanding airmanship and determination. On the first bombing run Lt ROTHSTEIN'S aircraft sustained a direct hit from enemy shell fire and the flight was forced to execute a second unsuccessful run. His aircraft sustained increased battle damage; however he aggressively maintained his aircraft and executed a third and highly successful bomb release and then returned his aircraft

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to allied territory without further incident. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

JIMMY P. SELLERS, O-755439, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 409th Bombardment Group (M). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight against the enemy in the European Theater of Operations from August 1944 to April 1945. Lt SELLERS participated as pilot of an A-20 type aircraft in a large number of missions against heavily defended and vital enemy installations in occupied Europe and by his outstanding airmanship and keen judgment in the face of hazardous conditions, he contributed in large measure to the success of the missions in which he participated. On one occasion while serving as deputy formation leader in an attack upon an ammunition dump in Germany, Lt SELLERS, despite intense antiaircraft fire which damaged his right engine and wounded the bombardier, continued on and bombed the objective with great accuracy. His unusual courage and devotion to duty on this and other occasions reflect great credit upon himself and were instrumental in the sustained operations of his group. Entered military service from Texas.

JACKSON C. SEWELL, O-797725, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (I). For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight against the enemy in the European Theater of Operations from May 1944 to January 1945. During this period Lt SEWELL served with distinction as pilot of an A-20 and A-26 type aircraft and despite intense antiaircraft fire, attack by enemy aircraft or adverse weather conditions, he carried the battle to the enemy with unusual aggressiveness. Although dispatched on numerous missions against the enemy's most vital and defended installations Lt SEWELL, by his professional skill, courage and devotion to duty, contributed in large measure to the success of the allies in the rapid movement across France, Belgium and the initial phases of the campaign in Germany and reflect great credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Maryland.

HAROLD L. SOMMERS, O-671705, Major, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (I). For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight against the enemy in the European Theater of Operations from March 1944 to March 1945. Throughout the course of a large number of combat missions Maj SOMMERS, by his superior piloting and extraordinary technique contributed greatly to the successful destruction of numerous vital enemy installations on the Continent. As pilot and flight leader of an A-20 and A-26 type aircraft Maj SOMMERS led his flight to an objective under most adverse conditions and without regard for personal safety he bombed and destroyed numerous enemy targets and in large measure contributed to the success of the missions in which he participated. The excellent aerial proficiency and technical abilities constantly demonstrated by Maj SOMMERS throughout many hazardous missions reflect the highest credit upon himself and his organization. Entered military service from Indiana.

CARL S. STANLEY, O-793453, Captain, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (I). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight against the enemy on 29 September 1944. While participating in a mission against marshalling yards at Julich, Germany, Capt STANLEY'S aircraft sustained battle damage by intense antiaircraft fire; and although without the use of trim tabs he maintained his crippled aircraft and executed a second bombing run on the objective. In the face of continued heavy and accurate antiaircraft fire Capt STANLEY skilfully dropped his bombs on the target with excellent results and returned his aircraft to base without further damage. The superior airmanship and determination demonstrated by Capt STANLEY

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on this occasion are indicative of his keen devotion to duty and reflect the highest credit upon himself. Entered military service from Kansas.

IRVING J. TURNBULL, O-755460, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 409th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement while participating in numerous missions against the enemy from August 1944 to April 1945. Lt TURNBULL served as pilot of an A-20 and A-26 type aircraft and distinguished himself by outstanding airmanship and technical ability under adverse weather conditions. On 5 August 1944 while approaching an enemy installation, intense antiaircraft fire severely damaged his aircraft and left engine; however with great determination and pilotage skill Lt TURNBULL continued on with reduced power, successfully bombed the objective, and returned without escort to base. Again on 9 March 1945, despite malfunction of one of his engines Lt TURNBULL again located the objective, deep in German territory, and contributed to the destruction of a vital enemy installation. His excellent proficiency and determination on numerous occasions reflected great credit on himself and the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from California.

EUGENE H. Van ANTWERP, O-750485, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight on 24 January 1945. As pilot of an A-20 type aircraft, Lt Van ANTWERP exhibited outstanding aerial proficiency and determination while participating in a medium level bombing attack against a communications center at Stadtkyll, Germany. During the approach to the objective, Lt Van ANTWERP'S aircraft sustained a direct hit from antiaircraft fire and although badly damaged, he nevertheless continued on the bombing run. When adverse conditions precluded favorable bombing of the objective Lt Van ANTWERP skilfully executed a second bombing run despite the damage to his aircraft and the continued enemy opposition, and dispatched his bombs on the objective with telling effect. His aggressiveness and determination in the face of hazardous conditions are indicative of Lt Van ANTWERP'S devotion to duty. Entered military service from California.

ROY A. WEIDMAN, O-803322, Captain, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight against the enemy on 2 January 1945. Capt WEIDMAN was leading a flight of A-20 type aircraft on a mission to bomb road junctions at Gouvy, Belgium and despite adverse weather conditions he skilfully kept his flight in close formation. When intense antiaircraft fire was encountered in the target area Capt WEIDMAN withheld his bombs on the first and second bombing runs; and despite battle damage sustained to his aircraft he held his flight together and executed a third and successful bombing run on the objective. The outstanding airmanship and determination displayed by Capt WEIDMAN on this occasion contributed to the success of this mission and reflect the highest credit upon himself and his organization. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

JOSEPH B. WOODWARD, O-755489, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 409th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight against the enemy from August 1944 to April 1945. Lt WOODWARD served with particular distinction as pilot and flight leader of an A-20 and A-26 type aircraft and on 2 March 1945 while attacking a railroad overpass at Eochen, Germany Lt WOODWARD'S aircraft received heavy battle damage by enemy antiaircraft fire and his plane went out of control. Displaying superior airmanship and technique, Lt WOODWARD regained control of his crippled aircraft and continued on course and bombed the objective.

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with pin-point accuracy. Lt WOODARD'S superior aerial proficiency and determination throughout the course of numerous hazardous missions against vital enemy installations in Continental Europe reflect the highest credit upon himself and his organization. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

V--DISTINGUISHED-FLYING CROSS (OAK-LEAF CLUSTER).--By direction of the President, in addition to the DISTINGUISHED-FLYING CROSS awarded by the Ninth Air Force to the following named officer as published in General Orders No. 17, Headquarters Ninth Air Force, 1945, a BRONZE OAK-LEAF CLUSTER is awarded to him under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 2 July 1926 (Sull. 8, 3D, 1926), and in accordance with the authority delegated by the War Department:

CHARLES F. RIGGLE, (1-413517, Lieutenant Colonel, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight on the night of 24 February 1945. As pilot of an A-26 type aircraft Lt Col RIGGLE distinguished himself by unusual proficiency and courage while participating in a night mission against important enemy marshalling yards at Killesheim, Germany. Through his daring leadership he executed three runs over the objective in the face of intense enemy fire flying at tree-top level and released his bombs with such precision that the following aircraft were able to bomb the installation with excellent results. By his outstanding achievement on this occasion an important enemy objective was rendered inoperative and aided in large measure the advance of ground forces in this vicinity. Entered military service from Ohio.

By command of Major General WENLAND:

W W WENLAND
Colonel, GSC
C of S

OFFICIAL:

F R WOODARD

F R WOODARD
Lt Col, AGD
Adjutant General

DISTRIBUTION: "1"
(Less units not concerned)

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NINTH AIR FORCE

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APO 696, U S Army
18 May 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)

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I--SILVER STAR.--By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (Bull. 43, WD, 1918), and in accordance with the authority delegated by the War Department, the SILVER STAR is awarded posthumously to the following-named officer:

ROBERT L. BACKSTEIN, O-74387, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For gallantry in action while participating in aerial flight against the enemy on 25 January 1945. Lt BACKSTEIN exhibited outstanding courage and devotion to duty when, despite the hazards of a severely damaged plane and the intensity of enemy fire, he persevered at his primary task and successfully bombed the target. During the return trip, unable to keep his damaged aircraft in position Lt BACKSTEIN trailed the formation to the base where, in order to permit others to land first, he circled the field until having lost altitude and radio contact, and crash landed. His sacrificial action and inspiring devotion to duty reflect the greatest credit upon himself and are in keeping with the finest traditions of the Army Air Forces.

II--SILVER STAR.--By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (Bull. 43, WD, 1918), and in accordance with the authority delegated by the War Department, the SILVER STAR is awarded to the following-named officers, now missing in action:

WILBUR G. COX, O-791676, Captain, Air Corps, 1st Pathfinder Squadron (M) Provisional. For heroism and gallantry in action against the enemy in aerial flight. On 23 December 1944, Capt COX, while leading a box of B-26 type aircraft in conjunction with allied ground forces, exhibited outstanding courage and superior leadership. Skilfully piloting his aircraft through antiaircraft fire and attacks by enemy aircraft, he bombed the target and was instrumental in the destruction of a vital railroad bridge. Capt COX, despite damage to his own aircraft unhesitatingly continued his bombing and strafing until his burning plane was grounded by enemy action. His flying skill and devotion to duty are indicative of the highest valor and are a credit to himself and the Army Air Forces.

PAUL R. OSTROM, O-731219, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 1st Pathfinder Squadron (M) Provisional. For gallantry in action in aerial flight against the enemy. On 23 December 1944 Lt OSTROM, bombardier of a Pathfinder aircraft

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dispatched on a bombing mission, distinguished himself by outstanding airmanship and superior leadership when, attacked by intense antiaircraft fire and enemy fighters he superbly led his group in a successful bombing of enemy transportation facilities. His fearless approach to the target and subsequent bombing were major contributions to the success of the mission. His determination and aggressiveness, courage and devotion to duty in the face of extreme danger gave inspiration to his group and are representative of the highest standards of the Army Air Forces.

III--SILVER STAR.--By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (Bull. 43, WD, 1918), and in accordance with the authority delegated by the War Department, the SILVER STAR is awarded to the following-named officers and enlisted men:

HOWARD B. AINES, O-750008, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For gallantry in action against the enemy in aerial flight. On 3 August 1944 Lt AINES, bombardier-navigator, leader of a flight of A-20 type aircraft, displayed extraordinary flying ability and outstanding leadership. When his flight became separated from the remainder of the formation upon encountering a heavy overcast, he unhesitatingly proceeded to the assigned target where, despite injuries received when enemy antiaircraft fire shattered the plexiglass nose of his plane, he conducted a successful bombing attack. Then with determination and unflinching devotion to duty, although suffering from severe wounds, he skillfully guided his flight of seven aircraft, four of which were badly damaged, safely back to base. His courage and intrepidity are consistent with the finest traditions of the Army Air Forces and reflect great credit upon himself. Entered military service from California.

DALE R. BARTELS, O-678993, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 1st Pathfinder Squadron (M) Provisional. For gallantry in action on 23 December 1944. While leading a box of B-26 type aircraft against enemy installations Lt BARTELS was attacked by enemy planes. Displaying superior aerial proficiency and outstanding leadership Lt BARTELS, despite constant enemy antiaircraft barrages, skillfully evaded the enemy and brilliantly bombed and destroyed a vital enemy railroad bridge. During the course of subsequent bombing and strafing runs, his gunners were severely wounded and his plane seriously damaged; but, undeterred, Lt BARTELS landed his plane on a friendly base where emergency relief could be given his injured men. Lt BARTELS' exemplary courage and loyalty and fidelity to duty reflect maximum credit upon himself and the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from South Dakota.

EUGENE R. CHEKEMAIN, 34248442, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, 1st Pathfinder Squadron (M) Provisional. For gallantry in action on 23 December 1944. Although S/Sgt CHEKEMAIN, engineer-gunner, was seriously wounded when enemy fire struck the turret guns during a bombing mission, he continued to fire his guns manually in an effort to ward off from 25 to 30 enemy planes. Steadily weakening because of loss of blood, he nevertheless returned their fire while the crew effectively bombed and destroyed a vital enemy target. S/Sgt CHEKEMAIN'S devotion to duty, his courage and determination to remain at his post insured the success of the mission. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

RUSSEL D. FELLERS, O-737040, Captain, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For gallantry in action while serving as leader of a flight of A-20 type aircraft on a low-level daylight bombing and strafing attack against the enemy

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on 23 January 1945. Flying under adverse weather conditions, Capt FELLERS led his flight to the target where during the bombing run at extremely low altitude they encountered fierce enemy antiaircraft opposition. Although his bombardier-navigator was seriously wounded and his aircraft severely damaged, Capt FELLERS continued on his flight and enabled his bombardier to release his bombs accurately upon the target. Ignoring the intense ground fire which further damaged his plane, he led his flight to tree-top level and strafed the enemy until all ammunition was expended. Capt FELLERS' outstanding airmanship and extraordinary leadership, his courage and determination enabled him to complete a successful mission and return his flight to home base. Entered military service from Ohio.

JAMES H. GILMORE, O-412102, Captain, Air Corps, 1st Pathfinder Squadron (M) Provisional. For gallantry in action on 30 November 1944. While leading 2 boxes of B-26 type aircraft against a heavily defended German village, although enemy antiaircraft fire had severely damaged his plane, repeatedly throwing it off its course, and had painfully wounded him, Capt GILMORE, exhibiting outstanding airmanship and extraordinary leadership recovered his position and led his boxes to the target where they successfully bombed and destroyed enemy installations. Capt GILMORE'S determination in the face of overwhelming odds, his courage and devotion to duty were responsible for the successful completion of the missions. Entered military service from Texas.

RICHARD C. HAMISTER, O-749842, 2d Lieutenant, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (I). For gallantry while serving as bombardier-navigator of an A-20 type aircraft on a combat bombing mission. On 14 January 1945 while participating in an attack upon an important enemy supply route, Lt HAMISTER was seriously wounded, but in spite of the pain, Lt HAMISTER, disregarding the enemy fire and the overcast which partially obscured the target, skilfully directed his runs and bombed the target. His courage and fortitude, steadfast devotion to duty and determination despite his painful wounds are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Ohio.

GORDON G. JONES, O-750281, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (I). For gallantry in action. Lt JONES, serving as lead bombardier-navigator of a flight of A-20 type aircraft engaged in a low level bombing and strafing attack against the enemy on 23 January 1945, distinguished himself by his superb aerial skill and outstanding courage. Despite adverse weather conditions and without the anticipated protection of a fighter escort, he located the difficult target and had entered upon an extremely low altitude bombing run when he was painfully wounded by antiaircraft fire. Disregarding the intense pain and the continuous barrage of ground fire, Lt JONES completed his run and successfully bombed the target. Then descending to tree-top level he strafed the target, receiving further damage from antiaircraft fire. Although his instruments were damaged and he was compelled to depend upon visual navigation Lt JONES led his flight through two snowstorms safely back to base. Entered military service from Maryland.

IEO P. MC DOWELL, 6919516, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, 1st Pathfinder Squadron (M) Provisional. For gallantry in action. During a bombing mission on 23 December 1944, the aircraft of which T/Sgt MC DOWELL was engineer-gunner was damaged by intense antiaircraft fire and he was wounded by a 50 calibre shell. Undaunted, he remained at his post and operated his guns manually in successful attempts to ward off attacking enemy aircraft while the bombardier skilfully released his bombs and destroyed an enemy target. During the return trip T/Sgt MC DOWELL, despite the intense pain of his wound, repaired the damaged rudder cable, thereby giving the pilot rudder control and enabling him to land the plane safely. T/Sgt MC DOWELL'S steadfast devotion to duty and

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outstanding courage were influential in the success of the mission and reflect the highest standards of the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Michigan.

CURTIS G. WELBORN, 34645741, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, 1st Pathfinder Squadron (M) Provisional. For gallantry in action. On 23 December 1944, although wounded in the face by enemy fire which also damaged his aircraft S/Sgt WELBORN, radio operator-gunner on a mission over Germany, determinedly returned the enemy fighter attacks and enabled his crew to bomb successfully the enemy target. When the engineer-gunner was so severely wounded that continued operation on his part was impossible S/Sgt WELBORN replaced him and covered both positions from the turret operating the guns manually. S/Sgt WELBORN'S outstanding display of courage and resourcefulness contributed to the success of the mission and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from South Carolina.

CARL J. ULERY, 37444169, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, 1st Pathfinder Squadron (M) Provisional. For gallantry in action during a bombing mission over Germany on 23 December 1944. Although seriously wounded by intense enemy antiaircraft fire which also damaged his plane, S/Sgt ULERY, tail gunner, undeterred by these handicaps, fired his guns at attacking enemy fighters, thus enabling his crew to bomb and destroy enemy targets. Throughout the mission, S/Sgt ULERY, remaining in his vulnerable position and warding off enemy blows contributed toward the success of the mission and by his outstanding action exemplify the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Iowa.

IV--DISTINGUISHED-FLYING CROSS.--By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 2 July 1926 (Bull. 8, WD, 1926), and in accordance with the authority delegated by the War Department, a DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS is awarded to the following-named officers, now missing in action:

EARL R. BEVER, JR, O-747718, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For heroism and extraordinary achievement on 6 September 1944. Lt BEVER, while on a bombing mission over enemy territory was forced by adverse weather conditions to make a bombing run at extremely low altitude, thus subjecting his aircraft to intense enemy antiaircraft fire. Although his plane was severely damaged during the attack, Lt BEVER, displaying superior aerial proficiency released his bombs with devastating results upon the target. Lt BEVER'S determination in the face of innumerable odds, his courage and superior aerial skill contributed much toward the success of the mission and reflect the greatest credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces.

JACK L. BURG, O-743756, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight over enemy territory. On 12 October 1944, Lt BURG, lead bombardier-navigator of a flight attacking enemy targets, distinguished himself by his resourcefulness and outstanding devotion to duty. By skilful navigation he evaded heavily defended enemy gun positions and despite a heavy overcast, expertly located the enemy target and led his flight in a successful bombing run which completely destroyed the target. His extraordinary aerial skill and brilliant leadership reflect the greatest credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces.

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JOHN V. CYRUS, O-747222, Captain, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For heroism and extraordinary achievement while serving as leader of a flight of A-20 type aircraft in an attack against the enemy on 2 January 1945. When the target was obscured by clouds and he was unable to bomb on the first bombing run Capt CYRUS fearlessly exposed himself to exceptionally accurate hostile fire and made a second run during the execution of which his aircraft was shot down over the target. Capt CYRUS' courage and gallant effort to accomplish an important mission in the face of heavy odds are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces.

GEORGE W. EPPERSON, O-750129, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For heroism and extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight on 2 January 1945. As lead bombardier-navigator of a flight of A-20 type aircraft, Lt EPPERSON skilfully led his flight on the bombing run through highly accurate ground fire, but clouds obscured the target and prevented bombing. Determined to accomplish his mission Lt EPPERSON, with heroic disregard for his personal safety, ordered a second run, during the course of which his aircraft was shot down. Lt EPPERSON'S intrepidity and determination, and his devotion to duty in the face of overwhelming odds, were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces.

X RICHARD V. MIRACIE, O-26150, Captain, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For heroism and extraordinary achievement as a pilot and flight leader in an A-20 type aircraft. On 29 September 1944 Capt MIRACIE'S aircraft was one of a formation dispatched on a mission to Julich, Germany. Although the antiaircraft fire was intense, Capt MIRACIE piloted his plane over the target which he successfully bombed. Ground fire damaged his right engine, but despite the hazard Capt MIRACIE led his flight on subsequent strafing attacks which further damaged the surrounding area. The outstanding aerial skill and courage displayed by Capt MIRACIE are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces.

V--DISTINGUISHED-FLYING-CROSS.--By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 2 July 1926 (Bull. 8, WD, 1926), and in accordance with the authority delegated by the War Department, a DISTINGUISHED-FLYING-CROSS is awarded to the following-named officers and enlisted men:

CLAUDE F. BAKER, O-747709, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement on 25 December 1944. While serving as deputy flight leader on a bombing mission over an enemy communication center in Germany, Lt BAKER displayed outstanding courage and steadfast devotion to duty, when, despite severe damage to his right engine, he nevertheless continued on his mission. Although he could no longer remain in close formation because of loss of power he skilfully directed his flight in numerous bombing runs and strafing attacks which completely destroyed the enemy installations. His exceptional skill and calm determination in the face of strong opposition contributed to the success of the mission. Entered military service from California.

X GALEN E. BARTMUS, O-730844, Captain, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight over enemy territory. When Capt BARTMUS and his flight reached enemy marshalling yards on a bombing mission,

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they were attacked by continuous and accurate enemy ground fire. Although his plane was severely damaged by the enemy action, Capt BARTMUS nevertheless tenaciously held his aircraft in formation and, displaying brilliant leadership, conducted his flight on a series of bombing and strafing runs which destroyed the enemy installation. Capt BARTMUS' integrity and steadfast devotion to duty while subjected to heavy enemy fire contributed toward the advancement of allied forces and are of greatest credit to his organization. Entered military service from California.

NEWTON C. BENHAM, O-804279, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight against the enemy on 29 September 1944. The airplane of Lt BENHAM, element leader, was critically damaged by enemy antiaircraft fire upon approaching enemy marshalling yards, but despite this handicap which made the plane difficult to maneuver, he courageously continued as leader and successfully bombed the target. Exerting all his strength to keep his plane level and compelled to fly the return trip with his arms locked through the control wheel, Lt BENHAM exhibited superb flying skill and steadfast determination toward the accomplishment of his assigned mission. His superior leadership and outstanding aerial proficiency are in keeping with the highest tradition of his organization. Entered military service from Texas.

FRANCIS E. BROWN, O-727846, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 1st Pathfinder Squadron (M) Provisional. For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight against the enemy on 30 November 1944. While leading a group in a bombing mission over a heavily fortified town in Germany, Lt BROWN and his group encountered severe enemy fire which damaged his plane and seriously wounded his radio operator-gunner. Disregarding these difficulties Lt BROWN continued on his mission and although encountering adverse weather, successfully bombed the target and in a series of strafing attacks, inflicted additional damage. Lt BROWN'S superior leadership and determination contributed much toward the success of the advancement of allied troops in this area. Entered military service from Minnesota.

ROBERT O. BROWN, O-752388, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 409th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement while serving as a pilot of an A-20 type aircraft on 29 September 1944. Although his plane was seriously damaged and his turret gunner wounded when heavy antiaircraft fire was encountered during a bombing mission over Bingen, Germany, Lt BROWN calmly continued his run. Displaying superior aerial proficiency he bombed the enemy installations and engaged in a number of strafing attacks which inflicted additional damage upon nearby marshalling yards. Lt BROWN'S courage and outstanding precision bombing were contributing factors in allied progress in this area and reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered military service from Illinois.

ROY L. BROWN, O-678152, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 409th Bombardment Group (M). For extraordinary achievement on 13 October 1944. While leading a flight of six aircraft in an attack upon an important railroad bridge, Lt BROWN was attacked by violent antiaircraft fire which prevented bombing during the first and second passes. Disregarding the intensity of the enemy barrage and determined to destroy the objective Lt BROWN brilliantly led his flight in the execution of a third pass which resulted in total destruction of the enemy installation. By his courage and steadfast devotion to duty in the face of overwhelming odds Lt BROWN and his flight contributed much toward the advancement

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of allied forces in this area. Entered military service from Indiana.

WILLIAM H. CARIS, O-685526, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 1st Pathfinder Squadron (M) Provisional. For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial warfare on 2 December 1944. While leading a formation in conjunction with allied forces, Lt CARIS encountered severe antiaircraft fire over Germany, and although his navigational equipment had failed and visibility was poor, he unhesitatingly conducted with skill and precision a brilliant bombing attack, the achievement of which aided the ground forces in gaining control of the immediate area. Lt CARIS' unflinching devotion to duty and outstanding leadership are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces and reflect great credit upon himself. Entered military service from Illinois.

RALPH CONTE, O-749833, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight on 5 August 1944. Lt CONTE was leading his formation on a bombing attack against a fuel dump at Foret de Chantilly in the vicinity of Paris, France, when he encountered heavy enemy antiaircraft fire and a slight overcast in the target area. Although forced to depend upon pilotage navigation because of a faulty gyro-compass, Lt CONTE skilfully evaded the enemy fire and leading his flight through a rift in the clouds, he executed a brilliant bombing run which destroyed the enemy fuel dump. Lt CONTE'S display of leadership and resourcefulness on this occasion reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered military service from New Jersey.

GORDON G. CORDSEN, O-744359, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 409th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement on 13 August 1944. Lt CORDSEN demonstrated superior navigation and brilliant leadership when he conducted a bombing attack upon an enemy railroad bridge. Shortly after entering enemy territory the planes encountered severe antiaircraft fire but Lt CORDSEN changing his course, guided his formation to the target without further attack. Although a partial cloud presented a bombing hazard Lt CORDSEN skilfully located the enemy bridge and accurately released his bombs upon the objective. His courage and integrity are exemplary of the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Colorado.

JAMES R. CROSS, O-747754, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement on 6 October 1944. When the flight leader was forced by mechanical failure to leave the flight Lt CROSS assumed leadership. Encountering adverse weather conditions which necessitated flying by instruments, Lt CROSS, displaying superior aerial proficiency and determination to complete the mission, led his flight in a brilliant attack upon the target. Lt CROSS' courage and ability to assume responsibility resulted in the successful completion of a difficult mission and exemplify the finest traditions of the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from California.

DANIEL P. DALFONSO, O-803781, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight over enemy territory on 23 December 1944. Lt DALFONSO, during a bombing mission over Germany, displayed outstanding skill and brilliant leadership when, despite the handicaps of a damaged aircraft and heavy enemy antiaircraft fire, he maintained his position and dropped his bombs with excellent results upon the heavily defended enemy communication center. His superior flying skill and steadfast devotion to duty made a notable contribution to the success of the

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mission and to the safety of his crew, and reflect great credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Illinois.

* WAYNE E. DOWNING, O-661726, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (I). For extraordinary achievement on 29 June 1944. Although his aircraft was seriously damaged when encountering an intense barrage of enemy aircraft fire enroute to the target, Lt DOWNING disregarding considerable loss of flying power, remained with his formation and employing a high degree of professional skill he executed a brilliant bombing run which destroyed the enemy target. Lt DOWNING'S courageous performance of duty and determination in the face of innumerable odds were contributing factors in the completion of a vitally important mission. Entered military service from Colorado.

ALFRED A. DULA, O-760696, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (I). For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight. Flying in adverse weather conditions and encountering severe antiaircraft fire which damaged his plane, Lt DULA, refusing to return to his home base although the damaged condition of his plane justified such action, distinguished himself on 2 January 1945 by his superior flying technique and outstanding heroism. Heavy overcast and intense ground fire made flying in close formation difficult for Lt DULA, but undaunted, he executed a brilliant bombing run which destroyed the enemy target. Lt DULA'S intrepidity and determination reflect great credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest standards of the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Texas.

LLOYD E. DUNN, O-724399, Major, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (I). For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight over enemy territory. On 6 June 1944 Major DUNN led a box to the heavily defended marshalling yards at Serqueux, France. Although intense antiaircraft fire severely damaged his aircraft and temporarily blinded his two gunners, Major DUNN reformed his box which had been broken up by the antiaircraft fire and bombed the target with excellent results. While strafing with subsequent attacks he silenced the enemy gun positions. Major DUNN'S display of fortitude and perseverance when faced by overwhelming odds reflect greatest credit upon himself and his organization. Entered military service from California.

JAMES C. EGAN, JR., O-803586, Captain, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (I). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight. On 2 December 1944 Capt EGAN was dispatched as a pilot in a formation whose bombing objective was an enemy installation at Saarlautern, Germany. Although the electrical system of his aircraft had failed shortly after the take-off, Capt EGAN continued determinedly upon the briefed mission. Thus handicapped by a faulty aircraft and encountering adverse weather conditions and intense enemy fire over the target, Capt EGAN displayed outstanding aerial proficiency and bombing skill when making two bombing runs upon the target he destroyed the enemy installations. His courage and steadfast devotion to duty are a credit to Capt EGAN and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Louisiana.

DONALD D. FANTON, O-750130, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (I). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight on 11 September 1944. The flight of which Lt FANTON was lead bombardier-navigator became separated from the remainder of the box during a bombing mission in conjunction with allied ground forces in the area of Metz, Germany. Although the enemy fire was intense

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and danger from attack by numerically superior enemy planes was imminent, Lt FANTON directed successful evasive action and bombed the target with accuracy. It FANTON'S determination and aerial skill contributed directly to the successful operations of allied ground forces in the vicinity of the target and are of greatest credit to himself and his organization. Entered military service from Iowa.

MATTHEW H. T. FERGUSON, O-409884, Captain, Air Corps, 1st Pathfinder Squadron (M) Provisional. For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight on 26 November 1944. Capt FERGUSON, while leading a bombing attack on enemy fuel dumps distinguished himself by a display of brilliant leadership and outstanding aerial proficiency. Despite heavy fire from an enemy six-gun position located within range of the target and a light overcast which hampered visibility, Capt FERGUSON unswervingly led his formation to the objective, and employing evasive action, bombed the target with excellent results. When harassed by enemy jet aircraft after the attack, Capt FERGUSON successfully drove them off and led the formation safely back to base. By his extraordinary devotion to duty, Capt FERGUSON aided greatly in the destruction of vital enemy objectives and the advancement of allied troops in the area. Entered military service from South Carolina.

RICHARD T. FERGUSON, JR., O-803797, Captain, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group. For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight. On 11 September 1944 Capt FERGUSON, pilot of an A-20 type aircraft, led his flight on a daylight bombing attack against a strongly defended enemy fort in occupied France. Although the three flights dispatched became disorganized and separated Capt FERGUSON reformed his flight and, displaying outstanding aerial proficiency and superior leadership, conducted a series of successful bombing runs against the target. Despite intense and accurate enemy mobile gun fire which necessitated evasive flying technique, Capt FERGUSON and his flight destroyed the fort and aided the advancement of allied ground troops in this area. Entered military service from Florida.

JOSEPH J. FIELD, 17164561, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group. For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight against the enemy. S/Sgt FIELD, engineer-gunner of an A-20 type aircraft, exemplified fine airmanship and extraordinary courage, when, on 6 June 1944, during a bombing attack on enemy marshalling yards he remained at his post despite extremely intense ground fire and returned fire until all his ammunition was expended. Throughout the entire encounter, S/Sgt FIELD checked all abnormal plane conditions reporting his findings to his pilot, and made valuable observations of enemy movements. His intrepidity and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Nebraska.

RAYMOND B. FIELD, O-693554, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 1st Pathfinder Squadron (M) Provisional. For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight on 23 December 1944. When the group of which Lt FIELD was co-pilot of Pathfinder aircraft approached the target area, it encountered intense enemy fire and attacks by ME-109's. Although his aircraft was severely damaged by enemy antiaircraft fire and constant attacks by enemy planes necessitated evasive action, Lt FIELD gallantly assisted his pilot in holding the aircraft in formation until it reached the target and successfully release its bombs. Lt FIELD contributed to the success of the mission, the destruction of the enemy's vital objective and the safe return of crew and aircraft despite the numerous handicaps of the mission. His devotion to duty and unswerving courage are of greatest credit to Lt FIELD and his organization. Entered military service from New York.

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JOHN D. FOOTE, O-799744, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 409th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement on 30 April 1944. While serving as leader of a flight of six aircraft in a bombing attack on enemy installations, Lt FOOTE distinguished himself by his brilliant leadership and outstanding aerial proficiency. During the bombing run over the target, his flight was met by eight ME-109's and immediately he led them in an attack upon the numerically superior force. Although cannon burst struck his plane and rendered it difficult to control, he skillfully maintained his position and aided in the dispersal of the enemy. Then reforming his flight, he conducted a successful bombing of the target. Entered military service from Connecticut.

DOUGLAS HANTSKE, 13103697, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight on 2 May 1944. During an attack upon enemy installations, heavy antiaircraft fire destroyed the radio in the plane in which S/Sgt HANTSKE served as gunner. Realizing the necessity of informing the pilot of the leakage of fuel due to damaged gasoline lines, S/Sgt HANTSKE determinedly began blinking code on the call signal light until contact with his pilot was obtained and a safe landing insured. S/Sgt HANTSKE'S accurate observations, courage and determination despite the handicaps encountered were responsible for the safety of his crew members and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army Air Corps. Entered military service from Maryland.

DAVID A. HULSE, O-736223, Captain, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight on 6 August 1944. Although harassed by adverse weather conditions and severe enemy fire, Capt HULSE led his flight in an attack upon the Oissel Bridge, last remaining enemy bridge on the Seine River and an avenue of escape for the enemy retreating from the Falaise Gap. His own aircraft was hit in many places but despite a fire hazard, Capt HULSE brilliantly led his flight in a bombing run and destroyed the target. His determination and steadfast devotion to duty were instrumental in the subsequent allied troop progress in this area and reflect credit upon himself and his organization. Entered military service from California.

JAMES A. JARROT, O-805475, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 409th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight on 12 October 1944. While approaching the target area, the formation of A-20 type aircraft in which Lt JARROT was flying encountered intense antiaircraft fire. At the beginning of the bomb run, an accurate burst struck the left engine of Lt JARROT'S plane forcing it out of the formation. Displaying outstanding aerial proficiency and skill, he quickly regained control of his damaged aircraft and continued on to the target where he released his bombs directly upon the installation. Lt JARROT'S devotion to duty and superior aerial proficiency reflect great credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Texas.

ROBERT L. JEX, 20922134, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For outstanding achievement in aerial flight on 14 January 1945. During a bombing attack on an enemy road junction Sgt JEX, in addition to his duties as a gunner was charged with the responsibility of securing photographs of the ground area and enemy installations. Despite the heavy enemy fire encountered during the bombing run, Sgt JEX, fully cognizant of the danger involved, displayed courage and steadfast devotion to duty when he exposed himself in order to secure photographs. Heavy enemy fire damaged the plane and

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seriously wounded Sgt JEX; but he remained at his gun position guarding against possible enemy attack until the mission was completed. Entered military service from California.

ERNEST L. JOHNSON, O-663740, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight. On a mission in conjunction with allied ground forces in the area of Challigny, France, Lt JOHNSON was responsible for effective air action over this area on 12 September 1944. Encountering adverse weather conditions and with his aircraft damaged by severe enemy fire, Lt JOHNSON continued with his flight, bombing the target so effectively that enemy ground troops in this region surrendered to allied forces. The devotion to duty, professional skill, and outstanding airmanship exhibited by Lt JOHNSON reflect the highest credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Oklahoma.

ERNEST K. KELLY, 38271192, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement while serving as armorer-gunner on an A-20 type aircraft. Subsequent to a successful bombing attack, on 4 June 1944, fire broke out in the aircraft; a defective hydraulic system and leaking gasoline further increased the hazard of continued flight. S/Sgt KELLY, however, completely disregarding his personal safety, succeeded in extinguishing the fire, thereby insuring the safe return of the crew and the seriously damaged aircraft. His outstanding courage and resourcefulness on this occasion contributed in large measure to the successful accomplishment of the mission. Entered military service from Oklahoma.

DAWSON U. KERSHAW, 32457359, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, 1st Pathfinder Squadron (M) Provisional. For extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight. On 4 November 1944, S/Sgt KERSHAW, armorer-gunner, exhibited outstanding efficiency and alertness while on a bombing mission in conjunction with allied ground forces. Checking the bombs before bombs away, he discovered that one bomb had no arming wire and that it contained a loose fuze. S/Sgt KERSHAW, without wearing his parachute because of cramped position, tightened the fuze and made the bombs ready for the target. S/Sgt KERSHAW'S prompt action and fidelity to duty were a conspicuous contribution to the success of the mission and to the welfare of his crew members. Entered military service from New Jersey.

DONALD E. LARSON, O-693381, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 1st Pathfinder Squadron (M) Provisional. For extraordinary achievement in aerial warfare. On 5 July 1944, the aircraft of which Lt LARSON was co-pilot was leading 37 other planes when a direct hit struck the fuel tank and it began to lose gasoline. Lt LARSON, unmindful of the danger involved straddled the bomb bay and navigator's compartment, and with bomb bay doors open undertook the transfer of the gasoline, continuing even after severe antiaircraft fire rendered additional damage to the plane. The courage displayed by Lt LARSON during this hazardous attack were instrumental in the success of the mission and reflect the greatest credit upon himself and his organization. Entered military service from North Dakota.

JOSEPH H. IEMON, O-813531, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement during aerial flight. On 6 July 1944 Lt IEMON was flying wing position on a bombing mission when severe antiaircraft fire was encountered and his aircraft was damaged. Although greatly handicapped by the loss of power in his right engine and a lowering of oil pressure, Lt IEMON by superior airmanship and courage remained in formation and dropped his bombs

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on the target with devastating results. Through his steadfast devotion to duty and determination, Lt LEMON contributed in large measure to the success of the mission. His courage and flying skill reflect great credit to himself and the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

IRWIN J. LOEFFLER, O-704304, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 1st Pathfinder Squadron (M) Provisional. For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight. On 23 December 1944 Lt LOEFFLER, having already completed a hazardous mission, was called upon to navigate a Pathfinder aircraft a second time that day although there was insufficient time for briefing. Despite the fact that an encounter with enemy fire had severely damaged his plane, and made all navigational aids inoperative. Lt LOEFFLER assumed leadership of the mission when the first box leader overran the target and led the remaining planes in an effective attack over the target. His brilliant leadership and outstanding courage reflect the greatest credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Indiana.

ROBERT W. MAC DONALD, 15097168, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement on 12 May 1944 while serving as an armorer-gunner on an A-20 type aircraft. During a bombing mission against flying bomb installations at Beauboir, France, S/Sgt MAC DONALD'S aircraft encountered intense enemy ground fire which severely damaged the right engine and hydraulic system. Antiaircraft bursts hit the turret and S/Sgt MAC DONALD'S arms and face were struck by flying glass; but despite these handicaps, he courageously remained at his post while the target was successfully bombed. When the radio equipment caught fire, S/Sgt MAC DONALD'S alertness and determination enabled him to extinguish the fire and bring the plane and crew safely back to base. Entered military service from Kentucky.

RUSSELL L. MAUGHIN, JR., O-26243, Captain, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial warfare. On 20 July 1944, Capt MAUGHIN, serving as a leader of a flight of A-20 type aircraft on a combat mission against enemy marshalling yards displayed outstanding courage and devotion to duty. When interference from another flight made a second bomb run necessary over the heavily guarded target, even though he realized fighter protection had been withdrawn, Capt MAUGHIN unhesitatingly led his flight for the second assault. In spite of the heavy antiaircraft fire encountered he bombed the marshalling yards successfully. Capt MAUGHIN'S brilliant leadership and superior flying ability reflect the highest credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Virginia.

LEONARD R. MC BRIDE, O-747840, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight. On 19 March 1944 during his first bombing mission, Lt MC BRIDE displayed outstanding flying skill and determination. As the formation of which Lt MC BRIDE was a member, approached the target area, it encountered intense enemy fire. Although his aircraft received serious damage, Lt MC BRIDE, undeterred, courageously continued with the formation and bombed the target with excellent results. Lt MC BRIDE'S steadfast devotion to duty contributed toward the success of the mission and reflects great credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Mississippi.

GERALD M. MC NULTY, O-886006, Captain, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight. Capt MC NULTY on 6 June 1944 flew as deputy-leader on an evening mission to important marshalling yards in occupied France. Upon entering the bombing area his aircraft was

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damaged by enemy ground fire; but with courageous fortitude and employing conspicuous flying skill, he maintained his position in the box, even though scattered clouds at times hid other planes from his view. When his box leader was forced out of the formation by intense antiaircraft fire, Capt MC NULTY unhesitatingly assumed command, assembled the formation and led a brilliant attack upon the target and destroyed the marshalling yards. Entered military service from Ohio.

ROBERT G. MEREDITH, O-747854, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight over enemy territory. Lt MEREDITH, while flying against heavy enemy opposition on 6 June 1944, exhibited outstanding courage and devotion to duty when, upon entering the target area where a heavy overcast necessitated low flying, the formation encountered intense enemy fire. Although his plane was damaged by a close burst Lt MEREDITH calmly maintained his position and bombed the target with excellent results. His aerial proficiency and determination in the face of great odds exemplify the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Montana.

KAYE G. MORRISON, O-545937, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 409th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight. Lt MORRISON was a member of a formation assigned to bomb an important enemy road junction. A heavy cloud overcast necessitated low altitude flying and the formation leader was forced down. Although his own plane was severely damaged by enemy fire, Lt MORRISON, skilfully maneuvering his plane, moved up to the position of deputy formation leader and aided in the successful bombing and destruction of the road junction. By his alertness, flying skill, and devotion to duty, Lt MORRISON brought the highest distinction upon himself and the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Utah.

EDWARD M. NEATON, 19079576, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, 409th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight. S/Sgt NEATON, displayed unusual bravery and outstanding airmanship while serving as a mechanic-gunner on an A-20 type junction in the area of Baal, Germany on 19 November 1944. Low cloud coverage over the area necessitated flying at an altitude of 3500 feet where antiaircraft fire was severe. Simultaneously the formation was attacked by eight enemy fighters; but despite these dangers, S/Sgt NEATON remained at his post and fought off the enemy while his plane completed its bombing run. S/Sgt NEATON'S determination and skill contributed in large measure to the success of the mission and his exceptional devotion to duty reflect the greatest credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from California.

WILLIAM A. PECK, O-800034, Captain, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement against the enemy on 6 June 1944. The formation of which Capt PECK served as pilot was attacked by severe enemy fire when a solid overcast forced it to fly at an altitude of 2000 feet over enemy marshalling yards at Serquex, France. Employing outstanding flying skill and superior leadership, Capt PECK maintained his formation despite severe damage to his plane, and bombed the marshalling yards with excellent results. Capt PECK'S steadfast devotion to duty and courageous action were responsible in large measure for the progress of allied troops in this area and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Georgia.

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ROBERT F. PRICE, O-431508, Major, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight. On 8 July 1944 Major PRICE led a formation in an attack against enemy installations near Caen, France, where intense enemy aircraft fire seriously damaged seven planes of the formation. Dense clouds of smoke from artillery fire blanketed the town and made accurate bombing difficult. Despite these handicaps, Major PRICE, employing cool judgment and superb airmanship, skilfully maneuvered his aircraft to lead his formation in a brilliant bombing run upon the target. This distinguished achievement in the face of grave obstacles substantially contributed to the advancement of allied ground troops in this area. Entered military service from West Virginia.

LYLE N. PROCKNOW, O-762130, 2d Lieutenant, Air Corps, 409th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight against the enemy. Lt PROCKNOW distinguished himself on 29 September 1944 while serving as a member of a formation which bombed a marshalling yard at Bingen, Germany. Although intense antiaircraft fire was encountered and inclement weather made the target difficult to identify, Lt PROCKNOW proceeded to bomb the objective with devastating results. Lt PROCKNOW'S unflinching devotion to duty is responsible in large measure for the success of the mission and his excellent judgment and aerie proficiency are exemplary of the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Wisconsin.

MARSHALL G. RICHARDS, O-663563, Captain, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight against the enemy on 5 January 1945. On this date Capt RICHARDS led a flight of A-20 type aircraft in an attack against a communications center in occupied Luxembourg. Upon approaching the target his left engine suffered severe damage from enemy fire but Capt RICHARDS refused to drop out of the formation knowing that at this critical moment his flight would not have sufficient time to reform before bombing the enemy installations. Maintaining his position, he led the flight in a successful attack upon the target. The unusual flying skill, superior leadership and devotion to duty demonstrated by Capt RICHARDS on this occasion reflect great credit upon himself and are worth the highest praise. Entered military service from Arizona.

ERNEST F. ROSS, O-685732, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 1st Pathfinder Squadron (M) Provisional. For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight over enemy territory. On 30 November 1944 Lt ROSS led a group on a bombing mission over the heavily fortified town of Eupr, Germany, a direct obstacle to allied ground forces in their drive toward Cologne. Although the target was obscured by clouds, and heavy antiaircraft fire in this vicinity severely damaged his plane critically wounding his radio operator-gunner, Lt ROSS, with skillful precision led his group in an effective bombing of the target. Lt ROSS' actions on this occasion are in keeping with the finest traditions of the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Kansas.

FREDERICK O. ROVENTE, O-737478, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 409th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight. On 12 May 1944 Lt ROVENTE was a member of a formation of A-20 type aircraft which attacked an airdrome in enemy territory. Approaching the target the formation encountered intense antiaircraft fire, and the hydraulic system on Lt ROVENTE'S plane was damaged and the plexiglass windshield of the cockpit shattered. Despite these handicaps Lt ROVENTE continued on his course to bomb successfully the enemy

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installations. Lt ROVENTE'S actions contributed greatly to the allied air offensive and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from New York.

THOMAS R. SAMMONS, O-749623, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 409th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight. During a bombing mission in conjunction with allied ground forces on 27 August 1944, Lt SAMMONS displayed outstanding leadership. Bombing of the enemy installations involved accurate timing without destruction to nearby allied troops and before the enemy could firmly fortify itself. Weather conditions were unfavorable and antiaircraft fire heavy, but Lt SAMMONS, undeterred, led his formation in a brilliant attack which destroyed the target and made possible an immediate advance of allied ground forces. Lt SAMMONS' devotion to duty and aerial proficiency reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered military service from Kentucky.

JACK S. SARGENT, O-747900, Captain, Air Corps, 409th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight. On 3 August 1944, Capt SARGENT led a formation of eighteen aircraft in an attack upon enemy marshalling yards. Because of heavy overcast and severe enemy fire a successful bombing of the target was rendered extremely hazardous. Refusing to abandon the mission, however Capt SARGENT selected a railroad junction as a target of opportunity. Reforming his flight, he led the formation in a brilliant attack, dropping bombs with pin-point accuracy upon the target. Capt SARGENT'S unswerving devotion to duty and determination in the face of great odds reflect great credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Texas.

JAMES P. SCHWARTZ, O-669794, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight against the enemy. On 27 December 1944 Lt SCHWARTZ exhibited superior aerial ability and outstanding leadership where intense enemy fire was encountered during an attack on the enemy communication center. Despite heavy opposition and the failure of a first bombing run, Lt SCHWARTZ reformed the group and again attacked the installation completely destroying it. His determination and steadfast devotion to duty were instrumental in the success of the air offensive in this area and reflect great credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Louisiana.

WILLARD W. SMITH, 38328745, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, 409th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight. On 28 November 1944 while serving as tunnel gunner in a formation attacking a troop concentration in Germany, S/Sgt SMITH exhibited superior judgment and aerial skill. On approaching the target, severe antiaircraft fire was encountered and an accurate burst struck S/Sgt SMITH'S aircraft causing a fire. S/Sgt SMITH, with outstanding courage and resourcefulness, calmly extinguished the flames, thus insuring the safe completion of the mission. The determination, and courage exhibited by S/Sgt SMITH are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Louisiana.

WALTER E. TRESDALE, O-805875, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 410th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight on 5 January 1945 while participating in action against the enemy as pilot of an A-20 type aircraft. When his formation encountered heavy antiaircraft fire near the

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target, a shell fragment entered the cockpit of Lt TRESDALE'S plane seriously wounding him. Despite intense pain, Lt TRESDALE continued the bombing run scoring direct hits upon the target. The courage, resourcefulness, and firm determination exhibited by Lt TRESDALE on this occasion was contributed in large measure to the successful completion of a difficult mission. Entered military service from California.

LOUIS J. VANDERLOOP, O-765756, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 409th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement against the enemy in aerial flight On 28 November 1944 Lt VANDERLOOP was serving as bombardier in a flight attacking the heavily defended village of Morkon, Germany which hindered the advancement of allied ground troops. Fully cognizant that inaccurate bombing might result in the destruction of allied troops in this region, Lt VANDERLOOP bombed the fortifications with pin-point accuracy thus permitting the immediate advance of allied forces. The tactical skill and devotion to duty displayed by Lt VANDERLOOP on this occasion reflect great credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Wisconsin.

EARL WHEELER, JR., O-745984, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 409th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight over enemy territory on 5 July 1944. While leading a flight on a bombing mission, Lt WHEELER encountered low cloud coverage and intense antiaircraft fire in the vicinity of the target. Undeterred by these hazards, Lt WHEELER brilliantly led several successful attacks upon the enemy installations. When the formation leader was shot down, Lt WHEELER assumed control and, employing skilful evasive action, he reorganized the formation and completed the bombing mission. His display of superior leadership and outstanding aerial proficiency reflect great credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Illinois.

DAVID L. WILLETS, O-431583, Lieutenant Colonel, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight against the enemy On 6 June 1944 Lt Col WILLETS distinguished himself by exhibiting superior flying ability and outstanding leadership when he led a formation of A-20 type aircraft to attack an important road junction at Argentan, France. Employing superb aerial tactics he skilfully maneuvered his flight through the hazards of intense enemy fire and low cloud coverage and effectively bombed the target. His professional skill, devotion to duty, and outstanding aerial proficiency reflect great credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Texas.

MICHAEL ZUBON, O-26075, 1st Lieutenant, Air Corps, 416th Bombardment Group (L). For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight. When the enemy was attempting a retreat across the Seine River in the area of Rouen, France on 27 August 1944, a formation of light bombers was dispatched to bomb troop and vehicle concentrations in that region. While making a series of bombing runs the aircraft piloted by Lt ZUBON was damaged by intense enemy antiaircraft fire. Although oil was spattered over his aircraft, thereby creating a serious hazard, Lt ZUBON bombed the target successfully. His outstanding flying technique and bombing skill, his courage and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from New York.

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GO No 76, Hq, Ninth Air Force, 18 May 1945, contd.

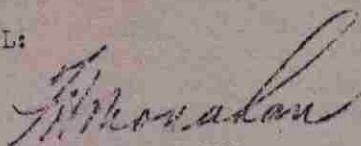
VI--DISTINGUISHED-FLYING CROSS (OAK-LEAF CLUSTER).--By direction of the President, in addition to the DISTINGUISHED-FLYING CROSS awarded him in General Orders No. 170, dated 30 June 1944, a BRONZE OAK-LEAF CLUSTER is awarded to the following-named officer now missing in action, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 2 July 1926 (Bull. 8, WD, 1926), and in accordance with authority delegated by the War Department:

RICHARD K. BILLS, O-798034, Captain, Air Corps, 409th Bombardment Group (L). For heroism and outstanding achievement while serving as pilot of an A-20 type aircraft. On 19 November 1944 Capt BILLS led a formation of 36 aircraft in an attack upon an important road and railroad junction at Baal, Germany. Although extremely hazardous weather conditions would have justified abandonment of the operation, Capt BILLS continued his mission and, despite heavy antiaircraft fire, attacked the target and destroyed the enemy installations. Capt BILLS' determined efforts on this occasion were instrumental in the advancement of allied troops in this area and are deserving of the highest praise and commendation.

By command of Lieutenant General VANDENBERG:

W W MILLARD
Colonel, GSC
C of S

OFFICIAL:



F. H. MONAHAN
Lt Col & G D
Asst Adj Gen

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